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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 01481 191725 Z

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 TAR-02

PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 NSC-10 SS-14 STR-08 CEA-02 L-03

H-02 /168 W
---------- 092115
R 191655 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6930
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN
USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E. O. 11652 N/ A
TAGS: ETRD, JA, NL, LU, BE
SUBJ: RESTRAINTS ON JAPANESE EXPORTS OF ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS TO BENELUX COUNTRIES.

REF: THE HAGUE 1191

1. INFORMATION IN REFTEL THAT THE JAPANESE AND BENELUX AUTHORITIES WERE NEAR AGREEMENT ON SYSTEM OF VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT OF JAPANESE EXPORTS OF CERTAIN CONSUMER- TYPE ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS WAS ALSO REPORTED IN BRUSSELS BUSINESS DAILY ECHO DE LA BOURSE ON MARCH 15. ECHO IMPLIES THAT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED IN PRINCIPLE WITH BENELUX OFFERING NOT TO APPLY SAFEGUARD CLAUSE IN EXCHANGE FOR JAPANESE COMMITMENT TO A VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT PROGRAM. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, THE JAPANESE WILL CONSULT WITH INTERESTED INDUSTRIES AND PRESENT A VOLUNTARY RESTRICTION
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PLAN TO THE THREE BENELUX COUNTRIES.

2. ON THE OTHER HAND, RELIABLE EMBASSY SOURCE IN THE BELGIAN FEDERATION OF ENTERPRISES (FEB) TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 19 THAT NEWSPAPER REPORT IS GREATLY EXAGGERATED. ACCORDING TO FEB, FOREIGN TRADE ADVISOR DE CROMBRUGGHE, JAPANESE OFFER OF EXPORT RESTRAINT IS SO VAGUE THAT NEITHER THE BELGIAN NOR DUTCH PRIVATE SECTORS ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT (E. G., JAPANESE OFFER IS NOT EXPLICIT ON AMOUNTS, AND IS NOT SPECIFIC COMMITMENT TO BENELUX BUT INSTEAD PART OF GENERAL PROMISE TO RESTRAIN EXPORTS TO WESTERN EUROPE). ALSO ACCORDING TO DE CROMBRUGGHE, RECENT INTERNATIONAL MONETARY DEVELOPMENTS HAVE SUSPENDED ALL TALKS ON THIS SUBJECT FOR TIME BEING. HE EMPHASIZED THAT BELGIAN AND DUTCH PRIVATE SECTOR (READ PHILIPS) STILL WISH INVOKE SAFEGUARD CLAUSE. STRAUSZ- HUPE

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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